

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please insert the following brief description of the drawings, at the top of page 3, before the Detailed Description of the Invention:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Figure 1. Species specific PCR with Y2/PARA primers was carried out for identification of strain *L. paracasei* IMPCI 2.1.

Figure 2. Confirmation of the identification of *L. paracasei* IMPC 2.1 by ARDRA.

Figure 3. A SEM image of *L. paracasei* IMPC 2.1 adhering to the intestinal pig mucus after three washings.

Figure 4. Anchoring and distribution of *L. paracasei* IMPC 2.1 on the pericarp. Control pericarp (SEM observation). (Upper panel). Adhesion of *L. paracasei* IMPC 2.1 on the pericarp (Lower panel).